

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

---

In re Patent Application of:  
Naruhisa HIRAI et al.

Conf. No.: 7227

Application No.: 10/594,212

Art Unit: 1621

Filed: September 26, 2006

Examiner: M. Lao

For: METHODS FOR PRODUCING AROMATIC  
CARBOXYLIC ACIDS

---

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated December 18, 2007, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.